

WØMTL - Mark Twain Land Area News — WØKEM

MAY, 2009

AMATEUR RADIO



Warm, Sunny Days Ahead!!

***PRAISE GOD FOR HIS BOUNTIFUL GIFTS IN
THIS LAND OF PLENTY; OUR RENEWAL OF
SEASONS, AND REMEMBER OUR COUNTRY IS
THE BEST, AND WE NEED TO PRAY FOR OUR
COUNTRY, OUR SOLDIERS, OUR LEADERS,
AND OURSELVES!!***

HARC OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT: HOWARD BARNES, KØDFW
V-PRES: J.D. SINCLAIR, WØAJD
SECRETARY: FRED MILLER, KBØWIL
TREASURER: TONY GILLILAND, WØPGL
TRUSTEE: CLIFF AHRENS, KØCA
EDITOR: BONNIE SINCLAIR, WBØWAP**

**Next Scheduled Meeting: Wednesday
MAY13, at 7:30 PM**

Regular Meetings are held at Beth Haven Nursing Home, 2500 Pleasant St., Hannibal, Mo.
Enter at the main entrance; turn left through the lounge area to the elevator. Take the elevator down to the first floor, and go to your right/left around the corner, down the hall to the cafeteria.

FCC VE TEST DATES FOR YEAR OF 2009 Hannibal, MO ARC 2009 Exam Dates

Wednesday, July 8, 2009 - 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October14, 2009 - 8:30 p.m.

Exams will take place at 8:30 PM after the regular scheduled HARC meeting. The exam session will be at the Beth Haven Nursing Home, in the Cafeteria on the 1st (lower) Floor, 2500 Pleasant St., Hannibal, MO. Registration is required at least 72 hours before the exam session by contacting the team liaison, Fred Miller- KBØWIL at kb0wil@arrl.net or 573-221-2429.

The 2009 test fee will be \$15.00. It goes to ARRL/VEC. Bring a photo ID (or two non-photo ID's); if currently licensed, bring the original and a photocopy of your valid FCC license; and if you are claiming credit for successful completion of an exam, bring the original and photocopy of any applicable CSCE's.



PLANT AN IDEA!

**REMEMBER THIS IS YOUR CLUB!! BE
SURE TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL OF THE
ACTIVITIES, AND SUGGEST AN ACTIVITY
THAT WILL KEEP THE INTEREST UP IN
OUR CLUB. MOST OF ALL,
PARTICIPATE!!** 🌸

HANNIBAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES



Minutes of the meeting recorded by:
Fred-KBØWIL...HARC Secretary...

Date: April 8th, 2009

Location: Beth Haven Nursing Home 2500
Pleasant St. Hannibal, Mo 63401

Meeting called to order by: Howie-KØDFW

Approval of minutes in newsletter:

Date of previous meeting: March 11th, 2009

Motion to approve: J.D.-WØAJD

Seconded by: Ed-WA6JMR

Treasurers report: Tony-WØPGL



Cash-\$1,002.94 CD-\$1,244.99 Total-\$2,247.93

Motion to approve: Ryan-WØRLR

Seconded by: Mark-NØZOF

Repeater report: Fred-KBØWIL

The 146.625 repeater is sounding great, we have occasional noise on the 146.880 repeater caused by the paging service.

Motorola Moblie Mara-Trac VHF radios update:

We have sold all the radios. The club would like to thank Jack-WD9CHG for acquiring, and programming these radios for the club. Also, to Howie-KØDFW for being the seller, and warehouse distributor. Thank you both for helping the club to make some additional funds.

Club Coax Update: The 500' roll of RG-213 coax and Silver Teflon PL-259 connectors have arrived. John-NØJA is going to cut to proper length, and solder the PL-259 connectors on the coax cable. Thank you, John, for doing this for the club.

Presentation tonight: John Hark, Marion County Emergency Manager from Hannibal, Mo talked to us about area hams helping out in severe weather, and how we can be of great importance if that should happen. We all know that if we lose land lines, cell phones, computers, and internet access, we are the last hope of reliable communications. John discussed, that we might have an emergency test drill set up to communicate with other emergency departments throughout the state. Thanks John, for coming to the club meeting tonight, and talking with us regarding this issue.

Note: Howie - KØDFW is going to be setting up a committee, to help plan and discuss our plan of action.

Howie - KØDFW passed out disaster & emergency planning information tonight as well.

K9P Special Event: USPSA - Single Stack Nationals

PASA Park Barry, Ill. April 29- May 2nd, 2009

We will be having a K9P Special Event, again this year on May 2nd, 2009. We will be using the World Famous Redneck Retreat as our base of operation. Carol-WA9EFV has agreed to be our host, of course he had to ask the real boss over there "Nancy", and she is an excellent hostess and cook. Carol is the self appointed Commander of this

operation, if you don't believe me, just ask him, and he will tell you it's true. This will be our 5th year using the K9P '1x1" call sign. Fred-KBØWIL will get the K9P call sign in the 1X1 database, as well as in the May QST magazine, in the special event section. We are planning on working **Saturday May, 2nd**, starting time approximately **0800 hours, 1300 ZULU**.

Field Day: June 27-28, 2009

Don't forget that Field Day is June 27th-June 28th, in Huckleberry Park, Hannibal Mo. We will discuss Field Day in more detail at next months meeting. Fred-KBØWIL is in charge of securing the pavilion in Huckleberry Park.

HARC Barbeque August 2009:

We will have our annual club barbeque on Saturday August 1st, 2009. It will be at Huckleberry Park Pavilion. Fred-KBØWIL will take care of the reservations for the pavilion.

Note: The Quincy hamfest is on Saturday August 8th, 2009.

50/50: Won by Oral-KBØECF, and he donated it back to the club. Thanks Oral, the club appreciates it.

VE Testing: April 8th, 2009 Update: We had three successful applicants take the test tonight.

Roger-WB9OJR, Astoria IL., Former Advanced Class, now he is an Extra Class.

Adam-KDØHHO, Hannibal Mo, New Technician Class.

Don-KDØHHN, Hannibal Mo, New Technician Class.

These are on the FCC's database (4-14-09).
Congratulations guys on your advancement.

VE Examiners tonight: Bonnie-WBØWAP, J.D.-WØAJD, Fred-KBØWIL, Ed Turner-NØWNV.

Fred-KBØWIL passed out several amateur radio catalogs tonight, from HRO, MFJ, MCM, & AES.

* Update: Missouri House Bill 26

There is a bill in the 95th General Assembly in Missouri, regarding HB26 Wireless Telephone Bill. We need to contact our local representatives and let them know, that there needs to be a provision for Amateur Radio Operators in this bill.

Rachel Bringer is our local representative, and her number is 573-751-9818, which is in Jefferson City, Mo.

<http://www.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills091/biltxt/intro/HB0026I.htm>

Attendance:

Total members: 19

Total guests: 7

Total in attendance: 26

Minutes of the meeting recorded by:
Fred KBØWIL..... HARC Secretary...



**FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK
MAY 2009
BY HOWARD BARNES KØDFW**

Spring has sprung! Mushrooms are coming up, and the hummingbirds are back from their sunny retreat in Central America. No more snow! But as I write this, we just had 3 inches of rain in 3 hours, and my yard looks like a river going across it. All I can say is that I am glad it isn't snow!!

Springtime brings on two thoughts..... Dayton Hamvention and Field Day. I have my ticket in hand for the Hamvention, and the motel room is reserved, and I am ready for a vacation!

I am not looking for anything in particular this year in Dayton, but I could be easily enticed to buy something that I really don't need! Dayton is the place for bargains.

As for Field Day, that is in the planning, and at our next meeting we need to discuss it at length, and see what we have in store for this coming year. We had a good year last year, and if things fall right we can have a better year this year. Three things come to mind that we need to concentrate on, and that is finding CW ops so we can run a 24 hour cw station, finding enough ops to run the SSB stations during the night time hours, and last but not least have a heck of good time!!! I think we can make these things come thru if we work really hard at them.

As this letter is going out, and I am late this time getting it to Bonnie, Sorry Bonnie. We will be running K9P station at the Red Neck Retreat at WA9EFV Carol's farm, right north of PASA Park in Berry, Ill. We will be running a SSB station for sure, and I talked to Kyle KD9EBL, and he said that he is bringing a digital station over to set up and run, and that sounds interesting, and if anyone wants to run CW bring a key and have at it. What ever turns your crank will work for K9P, and Carol says as long as you shoot straight you will get along!!!! Anyway, show up on Saturday, May 9th and have a good time with it, and it will get you warmed up for Field Day!

We have a Bar B que coming up the first weekend of August, and it will be a carry in type meal, with the club doing the Bar B Quing, and furnishing the meat and drinks. This is a good time as well, to get together, and "what else?" Eat. This club is really good at getting together and eating. Carol WA9EFV is going to be the chief cook with Tony and J.D. as burger flippers assistants! Cooney is going to be the guard of the dessert table, and that is like having the fox watching the hen house!! This is going to be a good time for all, so mark it down on your calendar for the summer. No excuse to not be there!! Summer isn't far away, and I hope everyone has a good spring! May your antennas fly high and tight! See you at Field Day!

73's

Howard

K0DFW

DX Horizons May 2009 by Cliff Ahrens K0CA



DX will find it hard to compete for attention during the middle of this month, when the focus of amateur radio operators world-wide will be on the Dayton Hamvention, which is set for May 15-17. It's a ham radio "happening." And this year one of the Dayton Hamvention highlights will be the ARRL Expo and National Convention. For more information, talk to one of the many area amateur radio operators who make the "pilgrimage" each year, or check out <http://www.hamvention.org/>. For more information about the ARRL Expo and National Convention, look at: <http://www.arrrl.org/announce/nc/2009/dayton.html>. Now on to some of the DX highlights for May.

5H Tanzania. 5H, Hermann DL2NUD and Joachim DL9MS are planning to be on-the-air signing 5H1HP and 5H1MS from Zanzibar between May 16th and June 2nd. Their primary focus will be 2 meter EME, but they will be on HF and 6 meters when not on moonbounce. QSL 5H1HP via DL2NUD and 5H1MS via DL9MS.

HI, Dominican Republic. Ronny, OT4R, will be active as HI7/OT4R between May 9 to 30. Activity will be on 20/15/10 meters SSB. QSL via OT4R.

JD1 Ogasawara Islands. Look for Koji JD1LET/JD1 on Ogasawara from April 29 to May 5. He plans to operate SSB, CW and RTTY on 40 through 6 meters. QSL via home call.

V6 Micronesia. JA7HMZ and JH7IOIS will sign V63DX and V63CW from Micronesia from May 11 to 16. QSL V63DX via JA7HMZ and V63CW via JH7IOS.

Twitter is the latest "fad" to hit the Internet. I had heard about it, but had given no thought to finding out what that strange bird called "Twitter" was all about. Then I noticed that Bernie W3UR, author of the Daily DX and Weekly DX, was testing the use of Twitter to post updates on DX operations, not only to his subscribers, but to anyone out there in cyberspace who might be interested. And several DXpeditions were on Twitter, including K5D and VK9LA. Since Twitter is free to use, I decided to try it. The theory of Twitter is quite simple: Tell what you are doing in short, quick answers. Or in the case of DX, "What is someone else doing?" And some of my favorite newspapers also use Twitter to post short headlines of recent news events. So I selected to "follow" them also. I've been testing it for about a month, and the verdict is still out on how valuable it will be in a DXers ham shack. My first thoughts are that it will not replace daily and weekly DX bulletins, the packet cluster, or email updates. But I think it's another source of information that just might be valuable in chasing that elusive new DX! It's worth giving Twitter a try.

Thanks to the ARRL DX Bulletin, the Daily DX and the Ohio/Penn DX bulletin for some of the information in this month's column.

73 and good DX, Cliff K0CA

**HARC MONDAY NIGHT NET
CALL LIST OF VOLUNTEER OPERATORS
MAY 2009**

4	KBØWIL	FRED
11	WØAJD	JD
18	WØPGL	TONY
25	KØDFW	HOWARD

Thanks to all of you who do this!! We do need more volunteers; if you are able to take one week a month, we would really appreciate it.

So often articles list an abbreviation of titles that a lot of us do not know what they mean. Here is a list of computer acronyms we are hit with all of the time, and Fred, KBØWIL has supplied us with a useful list of those, and their meaning. Now we need to understand what the actual words mean!! Thanks Fred!

Computer Acronyms:

ATA - Advanced Technology Attachment
 ATM - Asynchronous Transfer Mode
 BIOS - Basic Input/Output System
 BMP - Bitmap
 CD - Compact Disc
 CGI - Common Gateway Interface
 CPU - Central Processing Unit
 DBMS - Database Management System
 DLL - Dynamic Link Library
 DNS - Domain Name System
 DSL - Digital Subscriber Line
 DVD - Digital Versatile Disc
 FTP - File Transfer Protocol
 JPEG - Joint Photographic Experts Group
 LAN - Local Area Network
 MPEG - Moving Picture Experts Group
 P2P - Peer To Peer
 POP3 - Post Office Protocol
 RGB - Red Green Blue
 TCP/IP - Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol
 USB - Universal Serial Bus
 WiFi - Wireless Fidelity
 WWW - World Wide Web

Dick Gerling, WBØRKR – Silent Key
“He will be missed”

Richard W. Gerling



Sep. 19, 1926 – April 17, 2009

This is Dick's QSL card he used.
 Submitted by Cliff KØCA



Dick WBØRKR, worked for the Continental Cement Plant for 21 years. He was a member of the Hannibal Elks, Ottawa American Legion, Mason's Occidental Lodge #40 and was a long time valued member of Hannibal Amateur Radio Club. He served with the US Army Air Corp during WWII; he was stationed at Natal, Brazil, and received the Victory Medal American Theatre Ribbon. He loved shooting clays, working in the garden, model airplanes, working with computers, sailing, fishing, and HAM Radio.

Following is a memory by Cliff, KØCA

My memories of Dick, WBØRKR, were that he enjoyed working with, and helping new amateur radio operators get on the air on HF. And he

enjoyed CW and VHF operating also. My first QSO with Dick was on 10m CW on September 9, 1979, shortly after I was licensed. Dick loved 10 meters, and could almost always be found on the Sunday morning net of the Mark Twain Chapter of the 10-10 International Net. His 10X number was 14322. Of all the HF QSO's I had with Dick in 1979 to 1981, all but one was on 10 meters. I vividly remember when I upgraded to Extra Class in St. Louis on February 10, 1981; there was a blizzard that day. The next day when I got on the air, eager to work someone with my new privileges on HF, Dick was my first HF QSO as an Extra Class licensee. Dick also loved radio control airplanes and talked a lot about how much fun it was to combine his radio interest with flying. He was active in the Hannibal ARC for many years, and if my memory is correct, he served as Secretary, and may also have been President of the Club. He helped welcome many of us to the hobby of amateur radio. WBØRKR SK, rest in peace.

Cliff, KØCA

Following is a memory by Howard, KØDFW

Dick Gerling WBØRKR, also known as "Run Kangaroo Run" was about as much of a ham as you could find. I was a young guy, not yet licensed back in the 1970s and was attending the Hannibal Amateur Radio Club meetings at the basement of the McMasters Fire Station. Dick was the president of the club at the time. Dick took it upon himself to "fix" the chili for the chili supper that we had during the winter. By "fix", I mean he made it rather warm. I remember sitting behind Danny Bridges, who was a member at the time, and was bald headed, like I am now, and Ole Danny would take a spoonful of chili, and swallow it, and then take out his handkerchief and wipe the sweat forming up on top of his head. I mean, you could sit there and watch it forming right before your eyes.

Dick liked to build his radio equipment, and he built a lot of Heathkit radios and equipment. I remember that a transceiver that he had, quit working like it should and instead of putting out 200 watts like it should he could only muster 5 watts of power, and a guy that he was working that night said he had a twenty over nine signal coming in

there, and Dick told him that he was only running 5 watts of power and the guy called him a liar, and quit talking to him!

Dick also like to fly remote control airplanes with his son, and that was a big thing for the two of them to do together, and they really bonded doing that until Dick's son passed away at one of the air fields where they flew their planes. Dick never was the same after that. A broken heart has a way of pulling a guy down.

Dick was always gung ho when it came to ham radio, and he was good at keeping the club active, and he really cared about his friends. He was a good "Joe".

Dick gave me, and three other guys our novice test at his home one night, and I remember he said lets get warmed up for the test and copy a little bit and then we will take the test. So we started copying the warm up code and writing it down and he walked around behind our backs and looked at what we were copying, and at the end of the warm up he announced that we all had passed our code test, because the warm up "was the test". I passed my novice test that night back in 1978, and I have been hamming it up ever since.

We had some good times together, and I will miss him. I can still see him giving me that crazy grin he used to give me when we talked radio, now. That's about all that I can tell in a nut shell, on an old friend in passing.

73's, Howard Barnes, K0DFW
ex: WD0DFW, novice issued call

Following is a letter written by Dick WBØRKR in 1979 to the Mayor of Hannibal, in planning the success of the yearly Picnic/Hamfest that the HARC club was going to have. He was dedicated to the success of the club and its operators. This shows how much he was interested in the success and growth of the HARC club at that time. This is just a little history of the previous work, and dedication, that has been put in to our club. Let's try to keep up the work of our previous "Ham Friends".

Letter written in 1979-- Memories continued:

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Dear Mayor:

The Federal Communications Commission is going to conduct Amateur Radio exams in Hannibal on Sunday, July 8, 1979 at the Hannibal High School. This concludes two years of planning and preparations by the Hannibal Amateur Club, Inc. We are expecting a rather large turn-out for this event, and hope it is the beginning of an even larger event in the coming years.

The annual Picnic/Hamfest is going to be held on the same date, at the Admiral Coontz Armory. This event has grown over the past three years, and we expect this year to be even bigger and better than last years. There will be a giant carry-in picnic, all kinds of amateur radio gear to look at, and we anticipate having one or two stations operating. There will be entertainment, prizes, and we hope a good time for all.

To culminate these events, the Hannibal Amateur Radio Club, Inc. respectfully requests the Mayor to Proclaim Sunday, July 8, 1979, "Amateur Radio Day" in Hannibal, Missouri. This will honor the many local amateurs who spend many hours handling traffic (Both emergency and greeting) for the many area residents, and the many other unheralded services which Amateur Radio provides. Our own 146.28/146.88 repeater is used by all the area "Hams" to provide direction, and aid to the many amateur visitors that come to the Hannibal area, Our 10X club has issued over 500 "Mark Twain" certificates to other amateurs all over the world. The phrase "Boyhood home of Mark Twain" was the ending used by the local amateurs when giving their QTH (home town).

We hope you will give this request your kind attention, and hope you and your family can join us at our Picnic/Hamfest.

73's and 88's  
Sincerely,

R. W. Gerling, Jr. WBØRKR  
President WØKEM  
Hannibal ARC

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So, remember this is your club!! Let's make all the work that our fellow hams have worked so hard at planning, be worth their time and effort! Be sure to participate in all of the upcoming yearly activities, K9P, Field Day, August picnic, and monthly meetings. Let's have fun with friends, and an interesting & fun hobby. Watch our web-site, check in on Monday Night Net (146.625) at 8PM, show up every 2nd Wednesday of the month for meetings, and use those very special radios, and talent that you all have. Not everyone can learn how to properly use Amateur radios, and who knows, some day 'You may be needed to save some very important lives.'

Have a great month!

73 Bonnie WBØWAP

ATTENTION!!! FOR SALE!!!



**\$500.00 Ameritron
811 H Amplifier, Perfect condition.
Pwr supply strapped for 240 VAC
But can be changed to 120 V. Still
Puts out full power. No scratches
or dings. 10 mtr. Mod is done.
Contact Tony, W0PGL.
(573) 248-9053.**

You Can Tell You're A Radio Nut when...

By A. Nony Mous

1. You remember the exact date and time that lightning hit "the tower". The whole radio room was burned to a crisp, but you tell friends, "at least my wife wasn't home when it happened."
2. You'll spend hundreds of dollars on a new rig, and then wander the hamfest pausing each time you pass the booth selling those \$7 embroidered callsign hats thinking "I wonder if they'll take \$6?"
3. You're a HAM who buys a new \$300 five-watt, perfectly operating rig, opens the cabinet to "tweak" it to 20 watts, knowing full well it'll end up being sent back to the company for repair. The radio comes back, and a few weeks later you repeat the process - by watching your HAM friend from across town do surgery on your radio.
4. When shopping for a new vehicle the first thing you look for is space to mount the radios - you end up sitting in the front seat staring blankly at the dashboard area, feeling underneath seats, and poking around the backseat for ways to route the coax. If caught looking under the hood for holes in the firewall for your power cables, you tell your wife, "Nothing honey, just checking things under here."
5. Your family has a special annual garage sale just to get rid of the boxes of wire, coax, and power adapters-but you pay your friends to "buy" the stuff and get them to quietly return it to you the following weekend.

More of these to follow in next months newsletter...



Article submitted by Fred, KBØWIL

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